

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Approval Decision on
Maryland Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program.

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S.
Department of Commerce, and The U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Approve the Maryland Coastal
Nonpoint Program.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intent to fully approve
the Maryland Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (coastal
nonpoint program) and of the availability of the draft Approval
Decisions on conditions for the Maryland coastal nonpoint
program. Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization
Amendments (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. section 1455b, requires states and
territories with coastal zone management programs that have
received approval under section 306 of the Coastal Zone
Management Act to develop and implement coastal nonpoint
programs. Coastal states and territories were required to submit

their coastal nonpoint programs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval in July 1995. NOAA and EPA conditionally approved the Maryland coastal nonpoint program on October 3, 1997. NOAA and EPA have drafted approval decisions describing how Maryland has satisfied the conditions placed on its program and therefore has a fully approved coastal nonpoint program.

NOAA and EPA are making the draft decisions for the Maryland coastal nonpoint program available for a 30-day public comment period. If no comments are received, the Maryland program will be approved. If comments are received, NOAA and EPA will consider whether such comments are significant enough to affect the decision to fully approve the program.

Copies of the draft Approval Decisions can be found on the NOAA website at <http://www.nos.noaa.gov/ocrm/czm/> or may be obtained upon request from: Joseph P. Flanagan, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. 301-713-3121, extension 201, e-mail joseph.flanagan@noaa.gov.

DATES: Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the draft Approval Decisions should do so by November 5, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be made to Joseph A. Uravitch, Chief, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, tel. 301-713-3155 extension 195, e-mail joseph.uravitch@noaa.gov or to Fred Suffian, EPA Region 3, 1650 Arch Street (3WP14), Philadelphia, PA, 19104, tel. 215-814-5753, e-mail suffian.fred@epa.gov.

For further information contact: Elisabeth Morgan, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. 301-713-3109, extension 166, e-mail elisabeth.morgan@noaa.gov.

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Captain Ted I. Lillestolen
Deputy Assistant
Administrator for Ocean
Services and Coastal
Zone Management, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration

J. Charles Fox
Assistant Administrator
Office of Water,
Environmental Protection
Agency